

PM-ISE Workshop for Information Sharing and Safeguarding Standards (WIS³)

Appendix C – WIS3 Breakout Track 3

Federated Information Sharing Frameworks and Services

Panelists

Name	Organization	Role / Presentation
Steve Ambronsini	IJIS	Moderator
Gerhard Beck	Office of the USD(I)	DCGS Enterprise Overview
Scott Came	SEARCH and Vice Chair of the Global Standards Council	Global Reference Architecture
Wolf Tombe	DHS/Customs & Border Protection (CBP)	Dept. of Homeland Security Services Oriented Architecture
Jim Feagans	ODNI, OCIO	ODNI Standards Profile Process

Presentation 1 – DCGS Enterprise Overview by Gerhard Beck, OUSD(I)

Mr. Gerhard Beck provided an overview of the Distributed Common Ground/Surface System (DCGS) Enterprise. The DCGS enterprise is “an **enduring** set of **ISR interoperability standards** deployed world-wide from CONUS data centers to tactical handhelds across the GIG [Global Information Grid].” The DCGS enterprise is based on the W3C web standards which provide stability as technology changes and is backed by a Reference Implementation. Mr. Beck briefed how the service-oriented architecture (SOA) of the DCGS enables competition and agility on the acquisition of standards-based components.

Presentation 2 – Global Reference Architecture by Scott Came, SEARCH

Mr. Scott Came, vice chair of the Global Standards Council, presented an overview of the Global Reference Architecture (GRA) which, though developed for the US Attorney General as a reference architecture for integrating the Dept. of Justice, is 90% reusable in any domain. GRA is based on open and community standards and has been used in state/regional and national implementations.

***Presentation 3 – Dept. of Homeland Security Services Oriented Architecture
by Wolf Tombe, CBP***

Mr. Wolf Tombe briefed DHS' implementation of SOA. The DHS SOA Infrastructure is based in open architecture using a federated Enterprise Service Bus (ESB) model across the department. He shared a DHS success story on the Federated Person Query service, the first deployed into production. This service makes SOA-based requests to multiple sets of person-related databases internal and external to CBP and provides feedback in a standard format to the officers when encountering a subject. Mr. Tombe concluded with a summary of DHS SOA accomplishments and near-term plans.

***Presentation 4 –Common Profile Practice -A Quantum Leap for Enabling Capabilities
by Jim Feagans, ODNI, IC-CIO***

Mr. Jim Feagans began with the busted myth that use of standards alone enables interoperability --- lack of a standard implementation defeats interoperability. Use of profiles formalizes standards for implementation, thereby enabling integration by standardizing business attributes that are significant to the enterprise. Development of new artifacts (technical specifications and profiles) is currently underway in close collaboration with DI2E and MIT Lincoln Labs. The IC Enterprise Governance Process is evolving to accommodate the new artifacts, including the chartering of the IC and DoD Joint Enterprise Standards Council (JESC) in February. A common and accessible tool, the Enterprise Registry and Repository (ER2), links these artifacts to provide a common resource for all major system acquisition principals, as well as the community at large.

Breakout Discussion

Three questions were posed to the Breakout Group for discussion:

- How do we address messaging standards across service frameworks?
- What are the APIs that departments need to expose and make available services across government?
- How do we encourage provision, reuse and reimbursement for shared services across government?

To "break the mold," i.e, stop repeating the same behavior:

- Adopt an "Open Standards" model
- Make certain decisions about standards frameworks and components (delimit variations in interpretation)

- Enable agile governance and the Systems Engineering or Development Life Cycle (SE/DLC)
- Take the opportunity for a fresh start...don't get bogged down

Take a Longitudinal View...the Common Mission

- Establishing a Common Mission Interest
- Unifying a set of information sharing and interoperability standards
- Developing capabilities that are reliable, scalable and secure
- Developing a common recipe on how to use standards, frameworks and architectures

Path to interoperability - Background

- Demonstrated through Action
- Define the Standards
- Define the Content
- Develop Multiple Use Cases
- Test the Idea
- Assess the Impact

Near-term actions

- Keep up the momentum...engage the WG
- Define standards (Profiles, Capabilities, Services)
- Identify current capabilities and open standards and frameworks that are currently in progress
- Engage all involved government agencies
- Identify common capabilities with high value impact across the government
- Select a few to conduct pilots to demonstrate interoperability using different standards and architectures

Long-term actions

- Look at the use of Ontology
- Develop common profiles for reuse by other government agencies
- Draft guidance on purpose and scope of the existing capabilities and their reuse
- Consider reformation of acquisition models
- Execute rationalized SE/DLC
- Conduct pilot implementations
- Manage reference Implementations